UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/812,455	03/30/2004	Satoshi Kanai	44471/299174	3136

23370	7590	11/17/2006

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EXAMINER
ALHIJA, SAIF A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2128	

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *30 March 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-5* is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-5* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *30 March 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a)☒ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

   1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *8/16/04*.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-5 have been presented for examination.

PRIORITY

2.   Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d).

Information Disclosure Statement

3.   The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 27 August 2004 is in compliance with

the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the Examiner has considered the IDS as to the merits.

Claim Objections

4.   **Claim 5 is objected** to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple

dependent claim must "refer to such other claims in the alternative only". See MPEP § 608.01(n).

Accordingly, the claim need not been further treated on the merits. However in the interest of compact

prosecution a prior art rejection has been applied to the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis

for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or
in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for
patent in the United States.

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5.   Claims 1-4 **are rejected** under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by "**Integrating**

Physical Media into Human Computer Interaction". **Raimund Schatz, hereafter referred to as**

Schatz.

Regarding Claim 1:

The reference discloses A method of evaluating user interface (UI) design, comprising: receiving an element ID signal generated by an ID signal generating element and read by an ID signal reading element, the ID signal generating element being embedded in each operation button arranged on a mock-up of the UI design, the ID signal reading element being attached to a finger of a tester, the element ID signal being generated when the ID signal reading element is brought close to or in contact with the ID signal generating element; converting the received element ID signal into a button ID code according to a table prepared in advance, the table indicating correspondence between element ID signals to be generated by the ID signal generating elements and button ID codes assigned to the operation buttons in which the ID signal generating elements are embedded; issuing an instruction corresponding to the converted button ID code, to execute an operation of UI software to be activated by the operation button having the converted button ID code; acquiring a screen image representative of a result of execution of the UI software operation; and projecting the acquired screen image onto a display part of the mock-up in a size equivalent to the size of the display part.

(Schatz. Page 13-14, Section 3.2.2. Page 14-16, Section 3.2.3. Page 19-24, Section 3.4.4. Page 41, Section 4.4.2.3)

Regarding Claim 2:

The reference discloses The method of claim 1, wherein: the ID signal generating element is a radio frequency ID (RFID) chip; and the ID signal reading element is an RFID reader-writer.

(Schatz. Page 13-14, Section 3.2.2. Page 14-16, Section 3.2.3. Page 19-24, Section 3.4.4. Page 41, Section 4.4.2.3)

Regarding Claim 3:

The reference discloses A system for evaluating user interface (UI) design, comprising: an ID signal generating element embedded in each operation button arranged on a mock-up of the UI design; an ID signal reading element having an attachment to be attached to a finger of a tester, configured to read an element ID signal generated by the ID signal generating element when the attachment is brought close to or in contact with the ID signal generating element; code conversion data configured to indicate correspondence between element ID signals to be generated by the ID signal generating elements and button ID codes assigned to the operation buttons in which the ID signal generating elements are embedded; a code converting unit configured to convert the element ID signal read by the ID signal reading element into a button ID code according to the code conversion data; a UI software execution instructing unit configured to issue an instruction corresponding to the converted button ID code and execute an operation of UI software to be activated by the operation button having the converted button ID code; a screen image acquisition unit configured to acquire a screen image representative of a result of execution of the UI software operation; and an image projection unit configured to project the acquired screen image onto a display part of the mock-up in a size equivalent to the size of the display part. (Schatz. Page 13-14, Section 3.2.2. Page 14-16, Section 3.2.3. Page 19-24, Section 3.4.4. Page 41, Section 4.4.2.3)

Regarding Claim 4:

The reference discloses The system of claim 3, wherein: the ID signal generating element is a radio frequency ID (RFID) chip; and the ID signal reading element is an RFID reader-writer. (Schatz. Page 13-14, Section 3.2.2. Page 14-16, Section 3.2.3. Page 19-24, Section 3.4.4. Page 41, Section 4.4.2.3)

Regarding Claim 5:

The reference discloses The system of any one of claims 3 and 4, wherein: the operation buttons

each have an adhesive material so that the operation buttons are freely attached to and detached from the

mock-up.

(Schatz. Page 13-14, Section 3.2.2. Page 14-16, Section 3.2.3. Page 19-24, Section 3.4.4. Page 41,

Section 4.4.2.3)

Conclusion

6.   All Claims are rejected.

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should

be directed to Saif A. Alhija whose telephone number is (571) 272-8635. The examiner can normally be

reached on M-F, 11:00-7:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor,

Kamini Shah can be reached on (571) 272-2279. The fax phone number for the organization where this

application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application

Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained

from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available

through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-

direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SAA

November 11, 2006

KAMINI SHAH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER